



State of Vermont

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Department of Environmental Conservation
State Geologist
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AGENCY OF NATURAL RESOURCES
Department of Environmental Conservation
Hazardous Materials Management Division
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December 18, 1995

Jon Soter
Green Mountain Power Corporation
P.O. Box 850
South Burlington, VT 05402-0850

RE: Site Management Activity Completed, Green Mountain Power, Montpelier, VT (Site #91-1068)

Dear Mr. Soter:

The Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation, Sites Management Section (SMS) has received your letter confirming that the stockpiled petroleum contaminated soil, which originated at the above referenced site, has been thinspread at the Green Mountain Power (GMP) Berlin Plant #5 site (Site #89-0321). Upon receipt of your letter, a complete file review was conducted to evaluate the eligibility of the GMP Montpelier site for a SMAC (Site Management Activity Completed) designation. Petroleum contamination at the GMP Montpelier site was first encountered on June 17, 1991, during the removal of two underground storage tanks (USTs); one UST contained diesel product and the other gasoline. In order to investigate the petroleum release, a total of five groundwater monitoring wells were installed to determine the degree and extent of contamination. Only groundwater from the monitoring well installed in the former tank pit contained significant evidence of petroleum contamination. Concentrations of BTEX compounds within this monitoring well decreased over time, and had fallen below the Vermont Groundwater Enforcement Standards by the May 5, 1994 sampling round. During the investigation, no sensitive human or environmental receptors were identified as being either impacted or threatened by the release.

During the tank removal, all petroleum contaminated soil containing concentrations of volatile organic compounds exceeding 20 parts per million (ppm), as measured by a photoionization detector (PID), were excavated for treatment. A total of approximately 70 cubic yards of petroleum contaminated soil was excavated and transported to the GMP Berlin Plant #5 site, where it was successfully treated using the polyencapsulation treatment option. Soils remained polyencapsulated until they contained no detectable PID readings, as well as no visual or olfactory evidence of contamination. Additionally, a soil sample analyzed by a laboratory, which was collected from the stockpile prior to thinspreading, contained only 71 ppm total petroleum hydrocarbons.

Based on the current conditions at this site, the SMS has determined that this site is now eligible for a SMAC designation. This means that the SMS has determined the following:

- the petroleum UST systems responsible for the release have been removed from the ground, and are no longer a continuing source of petroleum contamination at this site;
- groundwater in the vicinity of the former USTs no longer contain any petroleum compounds in excess of the Vermont Groundwater Enforcement Standards, although some residual ethylbenzene and xylenes are present in the former UST area;
- all petroleum contaminated soil, with PID readings in excess of 20 ppm, was removed and successfully treated off-site using the polyencapsulation treatment option; and
- any residual contamination does not pose an unacceptable risk to human health or the environment.

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Based on these findings, the SMS has determined that site management activities have been completed. The completion of these activities does not release GMP of any past or future liability which may arise from the petroleum contamination discovered to have originated from the USTs at the GMP Montpelier site. It does mean that the SMS is not requiring any additional work be performed in response to the contamination discovered at this site. If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact either me or Matt Moran at (802)-241-3888.

Sincerely,



Chuck Schwer, Acting Chief
Sites Management Section

cc: Montpelier City Council
Nancy Huelsberg, GMP
Don Viens, GMP

CS:mattm/wp/911068smac